

# Texas Department of Transportation

VEHICLE TITLES AND REGISTRATION DIVISION • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78779-0001 • (512) 465-7611

July 6, 2001

## Registration and Title Bulletin # 085-01

**TO:** All County Tax Assessor-Collectors

**SUBJECT:** House Bill 1368 Relating to Fleet Registration, Multi-year Registration, and Nonprofit Disaster Relief Vehicles

### PURPOSE

To inform you of the provisions of House Bill 1368, which was enacted by the 77<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, 2001. House Bill 1368 becomes effective September 1, 2001.

### DETAILS

House Bill 1368 amended Transportation Code, Chapter 502, to include Fleet Registration, Multi-year Registration and the registration of vehicles used by nonprofit disaster relief organizations.

House Bill 1368 amends Section 502.203(b), Transportation Code, relating to application for registration of vehicles used by nonprofit disaster relief organizations. House Bill 1368 eliminates Section 502.203(b)(2), Transportation Code, which requires a statement by the sheriff of the county in which the vehicle is registered that the vehicle has not been used for any purpose other than emergencies.

House Bill 1368, relating to the consolidated registration of certain fleets of motor vehicles, amends Subchapter A, Chapter 502, Transportation Code by adding Section 502.0022. House Bill 2124, also enacted by the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislature, contains the identical fleet provisions as House Bill 1368. We are at this time in the process of developing our business plan to implement a fleet registration program.

House Bill 1368 also amends Section 502.158(c) to provide that the owner of any motor vehicle (regardless of the year model) may pay registration fees for a period of 12, 24, or 36 months. House Bill 2418, also enacted by the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislature, contains the identical multi-year provisions as House Bill 1368. Currently, multi-year registration is limited to new passenger cars and light trucks only.

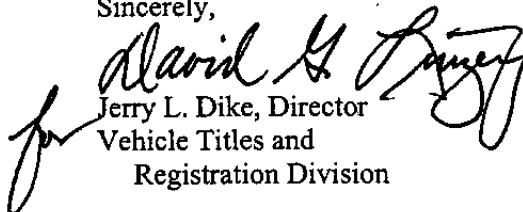
### DEPARTMENT ACTION

Attached is a copy of the bill for your reference. Revisions for the Vehicle Registration Manual are forthcoming.

### VTR CONTACT PERSON(S)

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact your local Vehicle Titles and Registration Division Regional Office or the Customer Help Desk at (512) 465-7611. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Jerry L. Dike, Director  
Vehicle Titles and  
Registration Division

JLD:vj

Attachments

cc: VTR Administration

## AN ACT

relating to the registration of vehicles.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 502, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 502.0022 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.0022. CONSOLIDATED REGISTRATION OF FLEET VEHICLES.

(a) The department shall develop and implement a system of registration so that an owner of a fleet of motor vehicles may consolidate the registration of the motor vehicles in the fleet as an alternative to the separate registration of each motor vehicle in the fleet.

(b) A system of consolidated registration under this section must allow the owner of a fleet of motor vehicles to register:

(1) an entire fleet of motor vehicles in the county of the owner's residence or principal place of business; or

(2) those vehicles in a fleet of vehicles that are operated most regularly in the same county by registering the vehicles in that county.

(c) The department by rule shall define "fleet" for purposes of this section.

(d) The department may adopt rules to administer this section.

SECTION 2. Section 502.158(c), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

1           (c) The department may designate a registration period of  
2 less than 12 months. The registration fee for a registration  
3 period of less than 12 months is computed at a rate of one-twelfth  
4 the annual registration fee multiplied by the number of months in  
5 the registration period. The department may not designate a  
6 registration period of more than 12 months, but:

7           (1) with the consent of the department, an owner may  
8 pay registration fees for a designated period of more than 12  
9 months; and

10           (2) an owner of a vehicle [~~passenger-car-or-light~~  
11 ~~truck-that-has-not-been-previously-registered-in--this--or--another~~  
12 ~~state--and--is--of--the--current--or--preceding-model-year~~] may pay  
13 registration fees for a designated period of 12, 24, or 36 months.

14           SECTION 3. Section 502.203(b), Transportation Code, is  
15 amended to read as follows:

16           (b) An application for registration under this section must  
17 include:

18           (1) a statement by the owner of the vehicle that the  
19 vehicle is used exclusively for emergencies and has not been used  
20 for any other purpose;

21           (2) a statement signed by an officer of the nonprofit  
22 disaster relief organization [~~by-the-sheriff-of-the-county-in-which~~  
23 ~~the--vehicle--is-registered~~] that the vehicle has not been used for  
24 any purpose other than emergencies and qualifies for registration  
25 under this section; and

26           (3) a reasonable description of the vehicle and the  
27 emergency equipment included in the vehicle.

1           SECTION 4. (a) The change in law made by this Act to Section  
2   502.203, Transportation Code, applies only to an application for  
3   vehicle registration under that section submitted on or after the  
4   effective date of this Act. An application for registration under  
5   that section submitted before the effective date of this Act is  
6   governed by the law in effect on the date the application was  
7   submitted, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
8   purpose.

9           (b) This Act takes effect September 1, 2001.

H.B. No. 1368

Brian Rottipp

President of the Senate

Robert L. Ramsey

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1368 was passed by the House on April 27, 2001, by a non-record vote; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1368 on May 21, 2001, by a non-record vote.

Sharon Carter

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1368 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 17, 2001, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Debbie King

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

6.13.01

Date

Rick Fenny  
Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
4:10 pm O'CLOCK

JUN 13 2001  
Amy Welton  
Secretary of State